

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

***Reply under 37 CFR §1.116 - Expedited Procedure - Technology Center 1600***

**In re application of:** Hunter *et al.*

**Application No.** 10/716,379

**Filed:** November 17, 2003

**Confirmation No.** 4384

**FILED VIA EFS ON July 27, 2006**

**For:** NIMA INTERACTING PROTEINS

**Examiner:** Lei Yao, Ph.D.

**Art Unit:** 1642

**Attorney Reference No.** 7158-71253-12

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

This Amendment and Response to Final Office Action (“Amendment”) is filed in response to the final Office action, dated March 27, 2006 (“Office Action”). A three-month period for reply was set in the Office Action. Applicants hereby request a one-month extension for response; thus, a timely response is made on or before July 27, 2006. A one-month extension fee is being paid online concurrent with this submission. It is believed that no additional fees are required to file this Amendment; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. 02-4550.

Please amend the specification as set forth on page 2.

Please amend the claims as set forth beginning on page 3.

Remarks begin on page 5 and conclude on page 6.